

# GRIFFIN LAW OFFICE

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## STAGES IN A FELONY CASE

### Stage 1: Arraignment

- Your First Court Appearance
  - Enter a not guilty plea
  - Demand discovery
  - Set bail review
  - Set Readiness Conference #1
  - Set Preliminary Hearing

### Stage 2: Bail Review

- 3 days After Arraignment
  - Motion to reduce bail
  - Bring witnesses/docs
  - O.R. Release/post bail
  - Pick next court date

### Stage 3: Readiness Conference #1

- 1st Settlement Conference
  - Discuss settlement with the judge and prosecutor
  - File motions

### Stage 4: Preliminary Hearing

- District Attorney Puts on Evidence
  - DA puts on witnesses to establish probable cause
  - Good place to show witness as wrong or lying
  - Defense attacks charges
  - Argue motions

### Stage 5: Arraignment in Trial Court

- 2 Weeks After Preliminary Hearing
  - Negotiate case with DA
  - File any motions
  - Set pre-trial dates
  - Get ready for plea bargain at Stage 6 readiness conference

### Stage 6: Readiness Conference #2

- Settlement Opportunity
  - Discuss witnesses/trial issues
  - Set motion hearing dates
  - Prepare for trial

### Stage 7: Motions

- Hearing on the Motions Filed
  - Argue motions previously filed
  - Review trial strategy
  - Subpoena witnesses
  - Prepare for trial
  - 995 motion (challenge evidence)
  - Discovery motions

### Stage 8: Trial

- Jury Trial
  - Pick a jury (voir dire)
  - Opening statements
  - Prosecution puts on its case
  - Mid trial motions
  - Defense puts on its case
  - End of trial motions
  - Closing arguments
  - Verdict (Not Guilty!)